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Chairman: Mr. Droba ..... (Slovakia)

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In the absence of Mr. Swe (Myanmar), Mr. Droba (Slovakia), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

Agenda item 77: Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (*continued*)

1. **Mr. dos Santos** (Brazil), speaking on behalf of the Rio Group, said that peacekeeping operations had grown since the middle of 2003. There were currently 60,000 persons serving in 16 different missions, and the missions were expected to increase in the coming months. The United Nations was helping countries to restore their economies and address the root causes of conflict to ensure lasting and sustainable peace.

2. The surge in peacekeeping created operational difficulties in the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations and Member States. About 90 per cent of troop-contributing countries were developing countries. Developed countries must meet a larger share of the need for peacekeeping troops.

3. Other difficulties included the growing budget for peacekeeping operations, the limited capacity of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) to deal with a large number of complex missions and the problems involved in coordinating peacekeeping operations conducted in the same region and in coping with multidimensional activities, including gender mainstreaming and the establishment of the rule of law and transitional justice.

4. The Rio Group noted with concern that the activities of the Training and Evaluation Service of the Military Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations had been drastically reduced, as the work of the Service was of great importance for obtaining consensus among Member States on the framework for peacekeeping operations.

5. Contributing to peacekeeping operations was not restricted to the provision of troops; it encompassed all areas within the mandate of multidimensional missions, such as provision of police contingents, capacity-building of local police, electoral assistance, humanitarian assistance and cooperation in the areas of health and education. It should be noted that the countries of the Rio Group were making a significant contribution to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti in terms of providing military and civilian police contingents, electoral assistance and other forms of cooperation. That was not only a display of solidarity but also a reaffirmation of deep commitment to the United Nations and its purpose of bringing about the peaceful settlement of conflicts.

6. All Member States must work together constructively to solve the structural problems arising from the expansion of peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations was an essential instrument, as it gave the Secretariat instructions on how to deal with difficulties and complemented the efforts of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to meet the rising demand for peacekeeping operations. While planning and deploying missions, the Department must take into account the specific difficulties faced by developing countries, particularly financial difficulties. A mechanism must be created to allow reimbursement in advance for troops deployed by developing countries. In carrying out new operations, the Department must realize that standardized models should be used without losing the flexibility to deal with the specific characteristics of each mission. In that context, guarantees of the safety and security of United Nations personnel were vitally important.

7. Peacekeeping operations were an effective and efficient way to deal with conflicts in the world. Despite past failures, peacekeeping missions had proved to be useful mechanisms for lasting and sustainable peace. The success of peacekeeping operations depended increasingly on incorporating measures to address the root causes of conflict into the mandates of multidimensional missions. Fostering development, promoting the rule of law, establishing transitional justice mechanisms, meeting the special needs of women and children in armed conflicts and ensuring the success of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration activities were crucial steps to consolidate democratic institutions in countries emerging from conflict.

8. **Mr. Baaziz** (Algeria) thanked Mr. Guéhenno for his efforts in the area of peacekeeping and his comprehensive report on the matter. Peacekeeping missions involved implementing peace agreements, helping to facilitate political reform and create appropriate institutions, supporting economic recovery, organizing the return of refugees and displaced persons, participating in humanitarian assistance programmes, monitoring and organizing elections,

implementing programmes for the disarmament and demobilization of combatants, demining and many other activities. The success of those missions depended on such important factors as the consent of the parties, impartiality and non-use of force except in self-defence. An important prerequisite for the success of any peacekeeping operation was a realistic, clear and viable mandate. A strong international consensus on supporting such missions was also a guarantee of success. As Mr. Guéhenno had emphasized in his introductory statement, the success of the missions also required an integrated approach by the entire United Nations system — the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, funds, agencies and programmes and, in many cases, the Economic and Social Council. Such an approach required the coordination of activities with international financial institutions, regional organizations and relevant civil society organizations. His delegation shared the view of the Under-Secretary-General that the implementation of many of the recommendations in the Brahimi report had increased the effectiveness and improved the coordination of peacekeeping operations. Adequate logistical and equipment support of missions was an important aspect requiring particular attention.

9. In many cases, operations were hampered by a lack of staff. Many countries were prepared to provide troops but had great difficulty deploying them within the established time frame. In that regard, the international community must give those countries the necessary assistance so that they could effectively deploy their troops. The United Nations must cooperate with regional organizations, particularly with respect to conflict prevention, crisis management, provision of humanitarian assistance and promotion of post-conflict recovery as well as economic development.

10. Particular attention should be given to the African region, where the international community faced the most serious peacekeeping problems. With respect to the African countries themselves, the establishment of the African Union Peace and Security Council would advance cooperation with the United Nations. Lastly, the mechanisms created in accordance with Security Council resolution 1353 (2001), including consultations between the Security Council, the Secretariat and the troop-contributing countries, must be strengthened to take account of the interests of those countries and involve them in the decision-making processes directly related to the situation of their troops carrying out peacekeeping activities in the field.

11. **Mr. Al-Qabandi** (Kuwait) said that his delegation associated itself with the statement made by the representative of Morocco on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries. Peacekeeping operations conducted in various regions were extremely important for reducing tension and defusing crises. Peacekeeping operations were becoming multifunctional, and their mandates included the provision of humanitarian assistance, preservation of law and order by civilian police forces, election monitoring, demining and many other kinds of activities. The implementation of such operations required the firm commitment of Member States to ensuring collective security.

12. His delegation noted in particular several factors crucial to effective peacekeeping operations. First, there must be a clear definition of the mandate of the operations and procedures for use of troops. Secondly, there was a need to ensure closer coordination between the Security Council and the troop-contributing countries and to find ways and means of strengthening that coordination to cover all stages of peacekeeping activity. Thirdly, the work of the United Nations in the area of preventive diplomacy and conflict early warning must be strengthened. Fourthly, attention must be given to compliance with Article 17 of the Charter to ensure that Member States paid their assessed contributions for peacekeeping operations on time.

13. Kuwait welcomed the cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations in peacekeeping activities and hoped that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations would continue its efforts to streamline the United Nations Standby Arrangements System so that it could react more effectively to threats to peace and security. His Government supported the activities of the United Nations concerning Iraq and, in that connection, was providing multilateral assistance for the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions. His delegation hoped that the efforts of the Government of Iraq would put an end to terrorist activities in that country, which were claiming many victims. Kuwait supported Security Council resolution 1546 (2004) and hoped that elections would take place in Iraq by the deadline of January 2005. Kuwait intended to continue giving assistance to the Iraqi people during the complex transitional stage so that

Iraq could become a fully fledged member of the international community. Kuwait had quadrupled its contribution to peacekeeping activities, as it believed that adequate resources were needed to carry out successful peacekeeping operations. Kuwait hoped that all Member States would pay their assessments on time and in full. In 2003 Kuwait had acceded to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, considering that everything possible must be done to ensure the security and safety of United Nations personnel, including military, civilian, police, local and other personnel. The delegation of Kuwait wished to express its gratitude to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations for its efforts to enhance the effectiveness of United Nations peacekeeping operations. He also stressed his Government's full support for the conclusions reached in the report of that Committee.

14. **Ms. Walker** (Jamaica) said that her delegation acknowledged the important role of DPKO in peacekeeping operations. Continuing and new conflicts had resulted in a surge in peacekeeping operations, some of which were complex and multidimensional. The implementation of those operations called for ever-increasing amounts of human, financial and logistical resources. Her delegation was grateful to the Under-Secretary-General for his extensive and useful account of the challenges facing his Department. It associated itself with the statement made by the representative of Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

15. The increasing number of conflicts underscored the continued relevance of peacekeeping. Current peacekeeping operations were also engaging in peacebuilding activities in order to sustain the peace more effectively. That situation begged the question which task the international community should tackle first: building the necessary social and economic institutions to minimize the possibility of conflict or bolstering a military response to prevent a conflict from spreading. It was preferable to give increased attention to the sustained economic development of countries prone to conflict, but peacekeeping operations must include peacebuilding dimensions in order to avoid conflicts or prevent them from spreading. There must be a clear distinction between those two areas of activity, for each peacekeeping operation should have a well-thought-out and viable exit strategy. Where peacebuilding was concerned, duplication of effort by the various entities of the United Nations system must be avoided.

16. Her delegation welcomed the multidimensional nature of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti and the inclusion in its mandate of the task of assisting with the construction and consolidation of functioning democratic institutions, re-establishing the rule of law, and promoting social and economic development. The Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, the reactivation of which had recently been approved by the Economic and Social Council, should be involved in the peacebuilding efforts in that country.

17. In the current year Jamaica had been able to make a modest contribution to peacekeeping by assigning 10 civilian police officers to the United Nations Mission in Liberia. It should be noted that eight of those 10 officers were women. The officers were currently training new recruits to the Liberian police. Her delegation had listened with interest to the Under-Secretary-General's recommendation concerning the establishment of a law-enforcement institution to support and bolster the rule of law. If established, such an institution would be staffed by specialist police officers and civilians. Her delegation requested in that regard that consideration should be given in the recruitment of personnel for the institution to ways in which States with only limited capacity could also participate in peacekeeping operations involving civilian police.

18. The Department was to be commended for its efforts to mainstream the gender perspective in peacekeeping operations, including the filling of the requested posts and production of useful documents. The appointment of the new gender adviser in August 2004 was welcome in that connection. It would also be useful if the Department included, in the context of its training seminars for permanent missions, additional information on the work done on gender issues. It should also include in its review of the implementation of the Brahimi recommendations, to be conducted in 2005, an account of the lessons learned with regard to the mainstreaming of gender issues in the implementation of peacekeeping operations. In conclusion, her delegation reaffirmed the importance of United Nations peacekeeping activities and the urgent need to give special attention to the safety of its peacekeepers.

19. **Mr. Al-Otmi** (Yemen) said that his delegation noted the fundamental challenges and problems confronting DPKO described by the Under-Secretary-General in his informative introductory statement. It associated itself with the statement made by the representative of Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

20. The raison d'être of the United Nations was of course the maintenance of international peace and security. Since peace and international security were indisputable preconditions of progress and development, Member States must work together to prevent conflicts. The Under-Secretary-General had noted in his statement the shortcomings of United Nations peacekeeping and had called on the countries which were not yet involved to join in and make their contributions. The Organization's peacekeeping must have a universal basis. His delegation also drew attention to the Brahimi report, which set out the main directions of United Nations peacekeeping in the future. Yemen was well aware that all countries must participate in peacekeeping if it was to be neutral and universal. It had provided troops for the peacekeeping operations in Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire and intended to continue to take part in peacekeeping operations together with other countries.

21. **Mr. Rana** (Nepal) said that his delegation associated itself with the statement made by the representative of Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. Despite the many reforms in the methods of preparing and conducting peacekeeping operations, the United Nations was once again at a crossroads. The Organization was currently carrying out 16 peacekeeping operations in various parts of the world and had to face complex and hazardous challenges. Nepal had been a consistent contributor to peacekeeping operations since 1958. By the end of November 2004, the number of Nepalese peacekeepers would stand at 3,300. In view of the surge in the demand for peacekeeping missions, the United Nations standby arrangements system should be reinforced; Nepal was prepared to make available up to 3,500 troops at a time under the standby arrangements.

22. The consultations between the United Nations and the troop-contributing countries should be institutionalized in order to create an enabling environment for peacekeeping operations. Financial and logistical constraints made participation by such countries as Nepal difficult. Under those circumstances, the only option was for the United Nations to offer such countries assistance to make good their equipment shortfalls. The strategic deployment stocks must be increased in order to sustain the numerous operations. With regard to the Organization's policy of treating all its staff members equally, the troop-contributing countries should be allowed to exercise their right to serve in managerial capacities. The initiatives taken by Member States to control and manage conflicts warranted support, for such initiatives reduced the need for direct intervention. Lasting peace could be achieved only by removing the root causes of conflicts, such as poverty.

23. **Mr. Zhang** Yishan (China) said that the expansion of United Nations peacekeeping operations would help to reinforce its authority and enhance collective security and compliance with the principle of multilateralism. The reforms carried out in that area had produced substantial results, as a result of which peacekeeping missions had acquired a multidimensional character. The problem now was to bridge the gap between the increasing demand for peacekeeping operations and the peacekeeping capability of the United Nations. That problem could be solved only if all the Member States kept in mind the need to sustain global and regional peace and stability and furnished to peacekeeping operations, in good time and in sufficient volume, the political and financial support and the personnel to create the conditions for rapid deployment and provide a durable basis for the fulfilment by the Organization of its peacekeeping functions. It was also necessary to formulate a deployment strategy for all missions ahead of time.

24. Given the current circumstances, it was essential to pursue the reform and improvement of United Nations peacekeeping operations on the basis of the following conditions. Firstly, it was essential to comply unswervingly with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, to be guided by the decisions of the Security Council, to respect the views of the stakeholders, and to observe strict neutrality, using force only when absolutely necessary. Secondly, it was essential to search actively for ways of boosting the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations and enhancing their results. Since such operations had recently increased in scale and complexity, their preparation should include the formulation of clear strategies and meticulous plans. Thirdly, regional

organizations should be more closely involved in peacekeeping operations, with their efforts complementing peacekeeping by the United Nations, especially in Africa. Fourthly, the work of strengthening the internal security and coordination system must be continued, and effective preventive measures for the safety and security of United Nations personnel must be introduced. China took an active part in United Nations peacekeeping and would continue to serve the cause of world peace to the extent that its resources and capabilities allowed.

25. **Mr. Maleki** (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that his delegation associated itself with the statement made by the representative of Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. International peace and security could best be maintained by respecting the principles of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States and by non-intervention in matters falling essentially under domestic jurisdiction. United Nations peacekeeping operations were not a substitute for permanent solutions or for the removal of the root causes of conflicts. However, there was a need to improve further the Organization's rapid deployment capabilities. Cooperation with regional organizations should be seen as a complement to rather than a substitute for the central role of the United Nations.

26. There was a need for further improvement in geographical distribution and in the representation of unrepresented Member States in the recruitment of DPKO staff. Improvement was also needed in the Department's systems for monitoring and reporting all cases of misconduct in peacekeeping missions. The world situation demanded from all the Member States a commitment to and support for peacekeeping. His country was ready to participate actively in all efforts to maintain peace and security in the world. As a new troop contributor, it believed that training was becoming an increasingly critical component of peacekeeping operations. In that connection, the Handbook on United Nations Multidimensional Peacekeeping Operations should be published, for it might be used for training purposes.

27. **Ms. Bahemuka** (Kenya) said that, with regard to peacekeeping activities, her delegation would like to recall Kenya's promotion of the peace processes in the Sudan and Somalia and its participation in a number of peacekeeping missions. For its part, the African Union envisaged the establishment by 2010 of an African standby force consisting of standby brigades in each of the five subregions of Africa. That regional concept did not mean in any way that the United Nations would be subcontracting peacekeeping missions to regional and subregional organizations. On the contrary, the role of the regional forces would be to support the efforts of the United Nations. It would be necessary to create a centralized system to manage all the contributions by the African partners.

28. The selection of mission leaders, in particular force commanders, deputy force commanders and chiefs of staff, was an important matter. As far as possible, those posts should be reserved for countries contributing sizeable contingents in any specific mission. A connected issue was the secondment of military officers to DPKO. Regrettably, certain troop-contributing countries had not been adequately accommodated in that regard. Her delegation was also in favour of increasing the number of women deployed in peacekeeping operations and recruited to the DPKO Headquarters staff.

29. There was no disputing the importance of the strategy of mission-specific pre-deployment training or of the need to support the regional and national training centres. Kenya would continue to back the Organization's efforts by offering the services of its Peace-Support Training Centre to all delegations. Issues of the safety and security of the personnel must be given utmost priority. Unfortunate incidents involving peacekeepers must be investigated thoroughly in order to prevent their recurrence. Bereaved families must be informed promptly, and questions of compensation for death or injury should be considered favourably and without undue delay.

30. **Mr. Chaliha** (India) said that his delegation associated itself with the statement made by the representative of Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. A robust military presence was essential during the initial stages of any peacekeeping operation in order to deter spoilers and establish the credibility of the United Nations. His delegation supported that new muscular or robust approach to peacekeeping and considered that the maintenance of international peace and security constituted a continuum from conflict prevention to peacebuilding. But peacebuilding should not be confused with peacekeeping. Peacekeeping was a short-term activity designed to solve specific problems, while post-conflict peacebuilding was for the longer term and should be left to the agencies, funds and programmes

of the United Nations system; in the final analysis, peacebuilding activities must be locally owned.

31. The establishment of the rule of law had a central place in post-conflict peacebuilding. There was indisputably a need to eschew a one-size-fits-all approach and imposition of foreign models which did not take into account a society's specific social and cultural characteristics. The United Nations should restrict itself to a supportive and facilitating role without seeking to impose outside values or views on the delicate process of establishing the rule of law. The trend in recent years for the Organization to use regional arrangements in its peacekeeping activities did not release the Security Council from its primary responsibility under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security.

32. The concept of rapid deployment had enjoyed somewhat limited success in practice. The Organization's efforts to solve emerging peacekeeping problems must be preceded by a thorough discussion in the appropriate intergovernmental forums, in particular the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, and by the adoption of decisions on mutually beneficial terms. The safety and security of the personnel was an area of critical concern and must be taken into account at all stages of the work of a peacekeeping mission, from planning to contingency response. The best insurance against the risks was a properly planned and mandated mission. Missions must have well trained, equipped and disciplined troop contingents which were not deployed in isolation from the political processes. India was a firm believer in trilateral cooperation between the troop-contributing countries, the Security Council and the Secretariat and called for its intensification.

33. **Mr. Ruiz Rosas** (Peru) said that peacekeeping operations continued to occupy a leading place in the work of the United Nations. However, their mandate and structure had changed and were becoming more multidimensional, and their military capability had increased. Efforts were currently being made to boost the civilian component essential to the fulfilment of a mission's political and social mandate. Isolation, poverty and marginalization were the main reasons for the emergence of conflicts. It was essential for peacekeeping missions to carry out multidimensional programmes for the consolidation of the State in question. The peaceful settlement of a conflict was impossible without constant efforts on the part of the international community.

34. Rapid deployment was a fundamental condition for the success of a peacekeeping operation. Peru reiterated its proposal that States should make available to the United Nations, on a voluntary basis, without conditions and in accordance with a pre-determined mandate, properly trained troops ready for operational deployment.

35. Like other developing countries, Peru participated in peacekeeping operations in spite of its problems, in particular its financial ones. Consideration should be given in that connection to the creation of a mechanism for making timely payments to meet the deployment costs of troop contingents from developing countries. Peru would also like training measures to be introduced. Such measures would enhance the effectiveness of field activities and ensure that the various contingents operated in accordance with uniform standards.

36. **Mr. López** (Cuba) said the guiding principles of peacekeeping operations were agreement of the parties, impartiality, non-use of force except in legitimate self-defence, clearly defined mandates, and guaranteed financing; those principles must be strictly observed.

37. An urgent need to render assistance to millions of people could not be used as a pretext for the introduction of dubious concepts which ran counter to the rules of international law and undermined respect for the sovereignty of States. Under the Charter, the means available to the United Nations for dealing with conflicts were not limited to the broad powers of the Security Council but included action by the General Assembly itself, where there was no place for global or regional hegemony, where the outmoded right of veto did not exist and where all States had the right to vote.

38. The United Nations must create vigorous mechanisms for ensuring that, once a decision to carry out a peacekeeping operation had been taken, the operation was deployed on the ground as quickly as possible. The deployment process must be conducted transparently in accordance with the principles embodied in Articles 100 and 101 of the Charter.

39. The tardy reimbursement of the personnel and equipment costs of troop-contributing countries was a source of concern. It could cause serious economic difficulties, especially for developing countries.

Peacekeeping operations could not deliver the final settlement of conflicts, which were usually due to economic, political and social causes; a final settlement required that those causes should be removed. The persistence of the double standards and discriminatory criteria applied by the Security Council when it took decisions on the composition and assignment of peacekeeping troops was regrettable. Until that situation was changed, peacekeeping operations could not constitute a genuine instrument of conflict resolution.

40. **Mr. Mavroyiannis** (Cyprus) said that his delegation fully endorsed the statement made by the representative of the Netherlands on behalf of the European Union. His Government had welcomed the adoption of Security Council resolution 1568 (2004) extending the mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for a further six-month period and endorsing the Secretary-General's recommendations, contained in his report (S/2004/756), concerning the amendment of the concept of operations and the reduction of the Force by about 30 per cent. Those recommendations, including the new concept of operations, had been based on a professional, objective and detailed assessment of the situation by the competent DPKO services in the light of the changes which had taken place over the past 12 years and with the aim of securing more efficient and rational use of human and financial resources. Such action was of paramount importance in view of the shortfall in peacekeeping resources caused by the recent substantial increase in the demand for the services of peacekeepers. His Government had also taken note of the Secretary-General's assessment that the changes did not entail any significant operational risk.

41. The adverse effects of the events of 1974 remained, notwithstanding the positive impact of the partial lifting of restrictions on movement across the Green Line in April 2003 and the huge potential for further improvement of the overall climate following the accession of the Republic of Cyprus to the European Union in May 2004. The violation of the military status quo in Strovilia persisted, and the restrictions on freedom of movement imposed by the Turkish and Turkish Cypriot forces continued to hinder the operations of UNFICYP. As long as that anomalous situation persisted, the potential threat to security would remain; that would necessitate the continuation of the mandate of the United Nations peacekeeping operation in Cyprus. The security situation on the island was gradually improving, and it was of the utmost importance to safeguard and sustain that progress if future efforts to resolve the Cyprus problem were to be successful. UNFICYP had an important role to play in that regard.

42. His delegation firmly believed that, in the current circumstances and under its new concept of operations, UNFICYP would focus on both peacekeeping and peacebuilding, acting as the main United Nations interlocutor with both sides on the island, participating fully in demining operations in the buffer zone and encouraging any initiatives to bring about reconciliation and create conditions conducive to the resumption of efforts to resolve the Cyprus problem. Confidence-building measures were of paramount importance in that regard.

43. **Mr. Rampangilei** (Indonesia) said that his delegation wished to associate itself with the statement made by the representative of Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. He emphasized the importance of honouring the memory of United Nations personnel who had given their lives for the cause of peace. Recently, there had been a surge in the number of peacekeeping missions, while peacekeeping was becoming increasingly multidimensional, complex and expensive. Consequently, the traditional approach to peacekeeping was no longer viable. Success could be assured only through a robust peacekeeping presence, which required adequate resources, including highly qualified personnel. In that connection, he stressed the role of adequate, targeted training, which could be provided through the United Nations train-the-trainer programme or by troop-contributing countries. That would spread the cost of training peacekeepers, while developing a pool of potential peacekeepers around the world.

44. One way of meeting the increasing demand for peacekeeping would be equal and fair burden-sharing between developed and developing countries, without which peacekeeping could not continue to be viable and effective. Strengthening coordination and cooperation between United Nations peacekeeping operations and regional arrangements could help to manage the upsurge in United Nations peacekeeping activities. In that regard, he drew attention to the declaration of the Association of South-East Asian Nations concerning its intention to establish by 2020 a

security community that would, inter alia, assist new United Nations peacekeeping operations in the region.

45. His delegation wished to stress the compelling need to enhance the safety and security of mission staff. It agreed wholeheartedly that it was essential to review the measures to enhance the safety and security of unarmed civilian personnel deployed in peacekeeping operations. If the safety of unarmed civilian peacekeepers could not be guaranteed, it would become increasingly difficult to find appropriate personnel for peacekeeping operations.

46. He drew attention to the importance of relations between civilian and military personnel in peacekeeping operations. While it was vital for them to have a common understanding of the mission's goals and objectives, it was no less important that each peacekeeper should be sensitized to the need to observe the peacekeeper's code of conduct. Regarding integration, his delegation believed that the key to success in peacekeeping was to take account of the diverse needs of the population. It was important for the entire United Nations system to work together as one in any given peacekeeping situation so as to ensure the best and most realistic work plan and the most effective use of limited resources.

47. The United Nations must continue to strengthen and enhance collective efforts both at Headquarters and in the field. Cooperation among United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, as well as with other relevant bodies and international organizations, was essential. In addition, measures must be taken to address the imbalance between activities funded through assessed contributions and those funded through voluntary contributions. His delegation believed that the readiness of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to work with Member States and other partners, including within the Economic and Social Council, would ensure the viability of the integration of peacebuilding in the overall peacekeeping strategy.

48. The need for peacekeeping arose because of conflict and instability. Consequently, the ultimate objective must be to accelerate the development process. In order to do that, it was necessary to focus, in the first instance, on the root causes of conflict in the world. The development of a rapid reimbursement policy remained a pressing matter, and something must be done to enable troop contributors facing budgetary constraints to meet rapid deployment timelines. Lastly, his delegation wished to reiterate that peacekeeping operations must be implemented in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and basic peacekeeping principles.

49. **Mr. Gatan** (Philippines) said that his delegation supported the recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. Demand for United Nations peacekeeping had risen steadily in recent years, particularly in Africa. The participation of Philippine military and police personnel in United Nations peacekeeping missions in the countries of that region demonstrated the commitment of the Philippines to United Nations peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

50. He stressed that, owing to the need for rapid deployment, troop-contributing countries must prepare their personnel for United Nations missions well ahead of time. In that regard, there was a need for substantive and meaningful consultations between the Security Council, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and troop contributors on all areas of actual and potential cooperation with the Department. New mechanisms were required to ensure that troop-contributing countries were informed of new developments and potential mandates at an early stage, so that they could take timely and effective decisions regarding their participation in field operations when the need arose.

51. His delegation believed that coordination of mission planning and training could be further improved. With regard to training, it welcomed the emphasis placed by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations on the establishment of national and regional training centres and support for bilateral and regional training arrangements among troop-contributing countries. The Philippine armed forces had set up a peacekeeping operations centre to train and form standby units for deployment to United Nations peacekeeping operations.

52. Mission planning should include the preparation of rotation schedules, which must then be adhered to. Downsizing of national contingents must be planned ahead of time so as to simplify the exit of contingents from peacekeeping mission areas. Force headquarters should be staffed, whenever possible, by nationals of countries that did not have any political or economic interest in the specific conflict.

53. His delegation was gravely concerned about threats to the safety and security of United Nations military and civilian personnel. Ensuring their protection was essential to enhance the Organization's credibility. His delegation placed high priority on the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel. In that regard, it wished to urge the development of a clear set of guidelines to alert and protect civilian and military personnel as a matter of urgency.

54. There had been a surge in demand for peacekeeping, and the scale of peacekeeping operations continued to increase. However, the best way for the United Nations to respond to conflicts was to spot them before they occurred. Peacekeeping was costly. In maintaining international peace and security, conflict prevention should be given particular attention; that required good intelligence.

55. **Mr. Hannesson** (Iceland) said that his delegation concurred with the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations that increasing demand for peacekeeping was one of the few predictable facts of United Nations business; that that demand could not be met by the United Nations alone or by any other regional or subregional organization; and that the complexity of the post-conflict transitional period meant that peacekeeping operations must increasingly involve peacebuilding, as well as peacekeeping. Consequently, the United Nations must draw to an ever greater extent on the resources and experience of other organizations in strate gic partnerships.

56. Iceland's high per capita financial contributions to both the United Nations regular budget and the assessed budget for peacekeeping operations were a clear demonstration of its commitment to United Nations peacekeeping. In addition, Iceland had recently increased its activities in the field of peacekeeping operations with the establishment of the Icelandic Crisis Response Unit. The Unit's staff were participating in a number of peacekeeping missions in the Balkans, in Kabul and in Sri Lanka.

57. The Unit took part in election observation missions, mainly in cooperation with OSCE. In addition, it was the official liaison with the International Rescue Team in Reykjavik, a specialized unit affiliated with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Geneva.

58. The security of peacekeeping personnel was of paramount concern, and appropriate measures must be taken to ensure their safety. His delegation strongly condemned vicious attacks on peacekeepers. In that connection, he expressed condolences on behalf of his Government to the families of those killed in the recent terrorist act in Kabul.

59. His delegation supported the observations and policy recommendations made by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations. It also wished to associate itself with the statement made by the representative of the Netherlands on behalf of the European Union.

60. **Mr. Rubukawaqa** (Fiji) said that the United Nations and Member States were faced with increasingly serious and complex challenges as they stepped up their peacekeeping activities. In that regard, his Government attached great importance to peacekeeping for the maintenance of international peace and security and affirmed its unwavering commitment to policies to accomplish peacekeeping.

61. A multilateral approach was needed to address the increased level of challenges and complexities arising from new peacekeeping missions. The United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) was one such mission and required a holistic approach and the cooperation of all Member States. His Government's decision to participate in UNAMI, despite the challenges and complexities involved, was based on its support for the work of the United Nations and was a response to the call by Iraq for the maintenance of international peace and security.

62. United Nations peacekeeping missions must retain their multilateral focus as the Organization broadened and enhanced its peacekeeping capacities. In particular, there must be procedures and systems in place to involve developing countries, which had much to contribute with respect to tackling the challenges confronting peacekeeping missions.

63. His delegation reiterated its call to the United Nations to promote effective peacekeeping partnerships and cooperation and was grateful to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations for its efforts to establish a financial support mechanism to help troop-contributing countries that might need assistance. The establishment of a triangular cooperation mechanism would greatly enhance the participation of developing countries in peacekeeping.

64. Recent events were a powerful reminder of the need to take every possible step to guarantee the safety and security of United Nations personnel and peacekeepers. Concerning integration, his Government fully supported the call for all United Nations agencies and organs to cooperate and ensure the effective provision of services and to avoid duplication. It also fully supported the call for effective and open recruitment procedures and the review of United Nations terms and conditions of service for civilian staff to ensure the recruitment and retention of qualified personnel. In addition to professional qualifications, geographical representation, gender balance and the inclusion of nationals of developing countries were factors that should be considered with respect to civilian staff appointments by the Secretariat.

65. Adequate resources were needed to conduct any operation, including peacekeeping operations. All missions must be results-oriented, which required regular reviews to ensure that activities were cost effective. But, above all, Member States must provide the necessary resources to enable the United Nations to attain its objectives.

66. **Mr. Kryzhanivsky** (Ukraine) said that given the sharp surge in demand for United Nations peacekeeping operations, which was likely to continue to grow in the near future, the Security Council, Member States and the Secretariat must work closely to meet the significant challenges facing them. For more than four years his Government had been among the major contributors of military contingents to United Nations peacekeeping operations and was the largest troop-contributing country in Europe. Ukraine was not only contributing troops and civilian police but was also providing airlift capacities and helicopters and other equipment, and would remain a reliable partner of the United Nations in that area.

67. Further development of partnerships with regional and subregional organizations would help the United Nations to meet the new challenges of conducting peacekeeping operations, and his Government encouraged the Secretariat to continue its efforts to enhance such cooperation with those organizations. Of equal importance was the provision by the international community of assistance to regional organizations, particularly the African Union, to strengthen their peacekeeping capacities.

68. His Government was deeply concerned about the increasing danger to peacekeepers and it supported efforts to improve information-gathering and analysis in the field to prevent threats to peacekeeping personnel. It therefore welcomed the introduction of Joint Mission Analysis Cells in peacekeeping missions. As one of the initiators of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, his Government fully supported the efforts to strengthen its legal regime. It advocated universal application of the Convention, called for strict compliance with it by Member States and invited the international community to mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of that important international legal instrument.

69. Rapid deployment was an essential element of peacekeeping operations. However, the United Nations was still far from meeting the objective of deployment within 30 to 90 days. His delegation urged the Secretariat to continue to work with Member States to enable the relevant mechanisms, including the strategic deployment stocks and United Nations Standby Arrangements System, to operate effectively. It also encouraged the Secretariat to assess the effectiveness of the System and to optimize the strategic deployment stocks in the light of lessons learned from the latest deployments.

70. At the same time, new options in that area could be explored. His delegation noted, in particular, the proposal by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations to provide for pre-trained and equipped units, to be kept in reserve prior to deployment under the command of Member States, for rapid deployment in peacekeeping operations when needed. However, it should be borne in mind that, even if Member States agreed to hold such units on standby, their actual deployment would be subject to national legislation. His delegation sought further clarification on how that concept was related to the rapid deployment level of the United Nations Standby Arrangements System, and pointed to the need to elaborate the proper financial mechanisms to implement the concept.

71. **Mr. Koné** (Mali) said that peacekeeping operations had initially involved the deployment of military contingents under United Nations command to settle international armed conflicts. The concept of such operations had since changed significantly, reflecting developments that had occurred in modern

warfare and that the United Nations must address. Besides international conflicts, there was an unprecedented upsurge of internal conflicts and civil wars that caused suffering to civilian populations and threatened international peace and security. Peacekeeping forces were currently often called on to pacify parties fighting in the territory of one and the same State and also to carry out police functions to restore law and order in States needing such assistance.

72. A significant number of peacekeeping operations conducted by the United Nations and also by subregional and regional organizations took place in Africa. The demand for United Nations peacekeeping clearly exceeded the Organization's financial capacities. In order to reduce the burden on the United Nations, there was a need to enhance the peacekeeping capacities of subregional organizations. In that regard, his delegation welcomed the fact that the majority of United Nations operations in western Africa, for example, had been preceded by advance parties from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). However, despite the political will of African States and subregional organizations, they did not always have the necessary logistical resources and required assistance from the international community.

73. His country was actively involved in United Nations peacekeeping operations both in Africa and elsewhere. Malian peacekeepers were currently taking part in operations in Liberia, Sierra Leone, the Congo, the Central African Republic, Burundi, Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau and Haiti. In many instances, the involvement of contingents from Mali in various operations had strained its national budget. In addition, there was a peacekeeping training centre in Mali where peacekeepers from other countries were trained, and the Ministry of Defence had recently inaugurated a peacekeeping documentation centre. In that connection, he affirmed his country's readiness to provide every kind of support for the work of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. He noted, however, that developing countries must be given the necessary logistical support in order to increase their participation in peacekeeping operations, and his delegation welcomed the willingness of several developed countries to take steps to strengthen the peacekeeping capacities of developing countries.

74. **Ms. Antonijević** (Serbia and Montenegro) said that it had come to be understood over the past several years that peacekeeping operations created a basis for long-term and sustainable peace and that peacebuilding components were important for their success. A surge in peacekeeping operations with increasingly complex mandates and including peacebuilding components had resulted from the awareness of those realities. Substantial experience had been gained and significant progress made, but there were many persisting shortcomings which needed to be corrected. The recommendations of the Brahimi Panel had played a crucial role in changing the approaches to the conception, planning and execution of peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding measures; it was now necessary to take stock of the successes and failures of complex peacekeeping operations.

75. Serbia and Montenegro had consistently reiterated the importance of establishing the rule of law in post-conflict societies. Indeed, there could be no sustainable peace without the rule of law. Serious attention must continue to be given to the further strengthening of that aspect of complex peacekeeping operations. An appropriate rule-of-law component should be included in mandates, as appropriate. There was also a need for the Security Council to formulate the mandates clearly in order to preclude any ambiguities which might undermine the credibility and success of the operations. Much remained to be done by way of improvement of the capacity of peacekeeping operations to discharge their responsibilities with regard to the rule of law and to enhance the system-wide coordination of cooperation with outside entities. Her delegation looked forward to acquainting itself with the proposals of the Executive Committee on Peace and Security on that subject announced in the Secretary-General's recent report to the Security Council on justice and the rule of law.

76. The Secretary-General stressed in that report that it was essential for all strategies and activities aimed at establishing the rule of law to be based on the principle of the substantive participation of all the national constituencies. However, broad public participation in those processes was possible only if the people's security needs were met. Unfortunately, in some such cases the Organization had been unable to provide the necessary security conditions for the re-establishment of the rule of law. Kosovo and Metohija provided one example: five years after its deployment, the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) had failed to provide security for all the

inhabitants of the province. The non-Albanian population of Kosovo and Metohija had been subjected to ethnically motivated attacks and denied freedom of movement and other basic human rights. Moreover, as noted in numerous reports on the human rights situation in Kosovo and Metohija, it was precisely because of the lack of security that only a token number of displaced persons had returned to the province, while the prospects for the return of a quarter of a million of such persons remained bleak. In such a situation, when one part of the population, namely Serbs and other non-Albanian ethnic groups, was literally struggling to survive and a significant proportion of the population remained displaced and had virtually no hope of returning in the near future, it was hard to envisage that all the constituencies would be able to participate in the political processes in the province aimed at building a multi-ethnic and multi-cultural society.

77. Serbia and Montenegro had repeatedly stated that the early deployment of a sufficient number of experienced and qualified civilian police officers and judicial and correctional personnel was essential to the success of the peacekeepers' efforts to re-establish the rule of law and that such personnel should remain on the ground for as long as the circumstances warranted their presence. The example of Kosovo and Metohija showed that the delay in deploying a rule-of-law component in UNMIK, the premature scaling-down of the civilian police component, and the continuing shortage of international judges and prosecutors had resulted inter alia in the creation of a culture of impunity in which ethnically motivated violence flourished.

78. **Ms. Bolaños-Pérez** (Guatemala) said that the surge in the number, scale and complexity of the challenges confronting peacekeeping forces in various countries and regions prompted the question whether the United Nations had the necessary managerial capacity, financial resources, troops and political will to implement peacekeeping measures. The improved awareness of the risks to which peacekeeping personnel were exposed was complicating the situation even further.

79. If the United Nations carried out all the envisaged operations, Guatemala's financial contribution to the conduct of the operations would not be substantially different from its contribution to the regular budget. Guatemala was convinced that its contribution would help to reinforce peace throughout the world, something of benefit to all countries. That was why in November 2003 it had signed a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations on standby arrangements. Peacekeeping operations made a big contribution to the attainment of national interests. Guatemala intended to increase its participation in the international activities.

80. There was a wealth of knowledge acquired from the experience of the many complex operations carried over the past 15 years, from the recommendations contained in the Brahimi report, and from the specific steps taken to implement those recommendations, in particular by DPKO. And useful operational links had been established between the United Nations and regional arrangements.

81. There was no doubt that much remained to be done. The Department must continue to build up its capacity to provide efficient and effective responses to the existing demands. The financial resources allocated to peacekeeping operations were a very good investment, for it was obvious that maintaining peace and preventing conflicts cost less than war. The most important task in enhancing the peacekeeping role of the United Nations was to convince the Governments of the Member States to give their full support to that work.

82. **Mr. Mustafa** (Sudan) said that his delegation associated itself with the statement made by the representative of Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. It reaffirmed the important role played by the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security and noted the progress made by DPKO in the planning, follow-up and promotion of efforts to meet humanitarian and security needs. Peacekeeping operations facilitated dispute settlement and détente throughout the world, especially in Africa. The causes of most African conflicts were to be found in resource shortages, unbalanced development and widespread poverty. The international community must adopt a comprehensive approach to the search for ways of settling conflicts and disputes.

83. The question of effective collaboration and coordination between the United Nations and regional and subregional peacekeeping arrangements remained an important priority. Most of the troop contributors were developing countries, which lacked the financial resources and other means to provide personnel

training. There was a need to strengthen the capacity of the African countries to carry out peacekeeping operations in terms of training, financing, planning, and rapid deployment. It was essential for such operations to be conducted in accordance with their mandates and with the general peacekeeping principles and guidelines, as well as with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

84. His delegation drew attention to the close cooperation and continuing consultations between the United Nations and the Government of the Sudan in preparation for the United Nations mission in the Sudan. The working groups of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Political Affairs had done their duty with due efficiency and professionalism. A comprehensive peace agreement would shortly be achieved in the Sudan: it was essential for the United Nations and the international community to assist with the establishment of peace and support the Sudan in its aspiration for sustainable development.

85. **Mr. Tin** (Myanmar) said that his delegation associated itself with the statement made by the representative of Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. It was a matter for concern that, according to the Secretary-General's report on peacekeeping operations, there would be a further increase in the near future in the already unprecedented number of such operations. Peacekeeping operations must be conducted in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the principle of respect for national sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence, and the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States. Compliance with such fundamental principles as the consent of the parties, impartiality, and non-use of force except in self-defence, and clearly defined mandates and objectives and secure financing were also essential to the success of peacekeeping operations. In that regard his delegation endorsed the view of the Non-Aligned Movement that United Nations peacekeeping was an important tool for the maintenance of international peace and security but could not be seen as a substitute for permanent settlement of disputes and could not eliminate the root causes of conflicts. Peacekeeping must be regarded as a temporary measure aimed at facilitating the observance of ceasefire agreements or agreements on the cessation of hostilities.

86. His delegation also fully endorsed the view that the Security Council bore the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and for the explicit definition of peacebuilding components before their incorporation in peacekeeping mandates. Prior consideration should also be given to the formulation of appropriate exit strategies in order to ensure a smooth transition to lasting peace and security after the peacekeepers' withdrawal. The deterioration in the security situation in many of the regions where peacekeeping operations were in place was extremely worrying, and the surging demand for such operations had prompted increases in the assessed contributions of all States to the peacekeeping budget. Myanmar had always tried its best to fulfil its obligations with respect to the financing of peacekeeping operations, but the developing countries were shouldering an ever-increasing burden in terms of the provision of troop contingents: the ten largest contributors of troops to United Nations operations were developing countries.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.